

NEWS RELEASE

October 4, 2001

For more information contact:

Jim Springer (801) 538-5324

Jeannette Hartog (801) 625-5245

HUNTERS URGED TO BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE

State and federal fire officials are reminding hunters, as well as all outdoor recreationists, to continue to exercise caution in the use of fire. Fire restrictions that prohibit open fires or campfires outside of developed recreation sites remain in effect for most of northern Utah. Smoking is also prohibited except in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or an area that has been cleared of all flammable materials. The use of propane stoves is permitted.

“Although temperatures are down, especially in higher elevations, the fire danger remains very real,” said State Forester Art DuFault. “Unless we receive significant moisture in the next week or so, we expect the fire restriction to remain in effect through the general deer hunt.”

Several fires in recent weeks have been traced to unattended campfires. “We want users of the National Forests to have a safe, enjoyable time,” said Jack Blackwell, regional forester for the Forest Service. “With the continued hot, dry weather, sportsmen and recreationists must remain mindful of the restrictions and be cautious in their use of fire where permitted.”

The restriction, in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, currently covers the following areas:

Private, state and federal lands in Cache, Rich, Box Elder, Weber, Davis, Morgan, Tooele, Summit, Wasatch and Utah Counties, except Manti LaSal National Forest Lands in Utah County.

Lands of the Wasatch/Cache, Uinta, and Ashley National Forests in Salt Lake, Daggett, Uintah and Duchesne Counties.

The High Uinta Wilderness Area located in the Ashley and Wasatch/Cache National Forests is excluded.

###